

Message Text

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15 S

ACTION EB-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-06 EUR-12 EA-06 ARA-06 FEA-01

AEC-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00

FPC-01 H-01 INR-05 INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01

PM-03 RSC-01 SAM-01 OES-02 SP-02 SS-15 STR-01 TRSE-00

FRB-01 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /104 W

----- 059717

R 110820Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9207

INFO AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY CARACUS

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 6591

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENGR, JA, FR, SA

SUBJECT: NO FRENCH NOR JAPANESE OIL DEALS

REF: JIDDA 6420

BEGIN SUMMARY: DESPITE CLAIMS TO THE CONTRARY, GOOD SOURCES
ASSERT THAT NEITHER FRANCE NOR JAPAN HAS YET SIGNED A LARGE
OIL DEAL WITH SAUDI ARABIA; FURTHERMORE, BOTH FRENCH AND
JAPANESE EMBASSIES THINK SUCH DEALS ARE UNLIKELY.

END SUMMARY

1. SAUDI NEWSPAPERS NOV 10 CLAIMED NEW 200 MILLION TON

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CRUDE OIL DEAL OVER 5 YEARS VALUED AT 15 BILLION DOLLARS

IS ABOUT TO BE CONCLUDED. JAPANESE WOULD SUPPLY THE KINGDOM WITH AID IN THE FIELDS OF AGRICULTURE, TELE-COMMUNICATIONS AND INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS ACCORDING TO THE STORY.

2. JAPANESE EMBASSY FIRST SECRETARY CLAIMED STORY IS PURE FABRICATION AND THAT NO SUCH DEAL IS EVEN BEING NEGOTIATED.

3. PRIOR CLAIMS IN BOTH PARIS AND FROM SAUDI SOURCES IN RIYADH THAT FRENCH WERE ABOUT TO SIGN A MAJOR LONG-TERM OIL SUPPLY AGREEMENT (REFTEL) MAY BE IN ERROR. GOOD FRENCH SOURCE INVOLVED IN ABORTED VISIT OF PRINCE FAHD TO FRANCE AND WHO WAS DUE TO ACCOMPANY LIPKOWSKI TO RIYADH SOUNDING OUT THE SAUDI GOVERNMENT ON THE FRENCH PROPOSAL FOR A MINI-CONFERENCE CLAIMS THAT A CRUDE SUPPLY CONTRACT IS NOT ONLY NOT IMMINENT BUT IS VERY UNLIKELY IN THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES. IF FAHD HAD VISITED FRANCE, THE SUBJECT OF CRUDE SUPPLY WOULD HAVE BEEN RAISED BY THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT. HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO THIS FRENCH DIPLOMATIC SOURCE, LIKELYHOOD OF A LONG TERM CONTRACT, EVEN IF FAHD HAD BEEN INTERESTED, WAS EVALUATED AS VERY LOW BY QUAI D'ORSAY.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974JIDDA06591
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740324-0131
From: JIDDA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741154/aaaabtzg.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: JIDDA 6420
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 MAR 2002 by worrelsw>; APPROVED <24 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NO FRENCH NOR JAPANESE OIL DEALS
TAGS: ENRG, JA, FR, SA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005